Australian Bureau of Statistics

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Big earners: where are they?
Regional income data released for all Australia

Employees in mining and inner metropolitan areas generally had the highest average wage and salary incomes in Australia in 2003-04, according to figures released today by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS).

Employees living in the mining areas of Queensland (Broadsound, Belyando and Peak Downs), South Australia (Roxby Downs) and the Northern Territory (Groote Eylandt, Nhulunbuy and Jabiru) had the highest average wage and salary incomes of their respective state/territory.

However the top ten areas with the highest average incomes from wages and salaries were in metropolitan areas of New South Wales, Victoria and Western Australia, with Mosman (NSW) the highest ($88,658). The bulk of high earners in these areas were professionals.

Other findings in today's release were:

- Wage and salary earners in the areas of Mosman, Woollahra and Hunter's Hill in New South Wales had the highest average wage and salary incomes in Australia at $88,658, $70,765 and $68,818 respectively.
- Across Australia, the average wage and salary income was $38,820.
- Employees in the Australian Capital Territory had the highest average wage and salary income at $44,664, followed by New South Wales ($41,407) and the Northern Territory ($40,027).
- Wage and salary earners in Mosman and Woollahra also had the highest income from sources other than wages and salaries (eg superannuation and annuities, unincorporated business income, investments).
- The average total income across Australia was $2,027 higher than the average wage and salary income.

The data cubes associated with this release, containing Statistical Local Area data for wage and salary earners by age, sex, income ranges and occupation, can be accessed through the 'details' tab of *Regional Wage and Salary Earner Statistics, Australia - Data Cubes, 2003-04* (cat. no. 5673.0.55.003).

The top five areas in each state/territory with the highest average wage and salary income for 2003-04

New South Wales		
1.	Mosman (A)	$88,658
2.	Woollahra (A)	$70,765
3.	Hunter's Hill (A)	$68,818
4.	Ku-ring-gai (A)	$65,977
5.	North Sydney (A)	$65,013
State average		**$41,407**

Victoria		
1.	Bayside (C) - Brighton	$62,715
2.	Port Phillip (C) - West	$58,052
3.	Stonnington (C) - Prahran	$55,943
4.	Boroondara (C) - Kew	$55,056
5.	Stonnington (C) - Malvern	$54,888
State average		**$38,754**

Queensland		
1.	Broadsound (S)	$57,411
2.	Belyando (S)	$55,791
3.	Peak Downs (S)	$53,949
4.	Ascot	$53,180
5.	Hamilton	$53,161
State average		**$35,917**

South Australia		
1.	Roxby Downs (M)	$52,778
2.	Walkerville (M)	$46,639

Western Australia		
1.	Peppermint Grove (S)	$60,364
2.	Cottesloe (T)	$60,287
3.	Nedlands (C)	$57,279
4.	Ashburton (S)	$57,141
5.	Claremont (T)	$56,988
State average		**$38,284**

Tasmania		
1.	Hobart (C) - Remainder	$39,382
2.	Hobart (C) - Inner	$39,353
3.	West Coast (M)	$37,089
4.	Kingborough (M) - Pt A	$36,239
5.	George Town (M) - Pt B	$35,674
State average		**$33,847**

Northern Territory		
1.	Groote Eylandt	$58,609
2.	Nhulunbuy	$48,826
3.	Jabiru (T)	$45,085
4.	The Gardens	$44,864
5.	Fannie Bay	$44,853
Territory average		**$40,027**

Australian Capital Territory		
1.	Red Hill	$59,014
2.	Forrest	$59,004

3.	Burnside (C) - South-West	$46,252	3.	Griffith	$58,379
4.	Unley (C) - East	$45,755	4.	City	$55,854
5.	Burnside (C) - North-East	$45,217	5.	Barton	$55,836
State average		**$35,685**	**Territory average**		**$44,664**

Source: ATO Income Tax Data

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